

The Citizen's Police Academy is a seven week program designed to provide Covina residents and people that work in Covina first hand information about how their police department works, to increase understanding between citizens and the police through education, making it easier for police and citizens to find realistic solutions to neighborhood problems. Participation requires a commitment of one night a week for a seven week period. Classes are held on Thursday evenings from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the police facility located at 444 N. Citrus Avenue in Covina.

The first Citizen's Academy class began in March 1998. Instructors are officers and personnel from the Covina Police Department, who teach in their own areas of expertise, and bring years of street experience into the classroom. Presentations include topics such as domestic violence and child abuse, use of force, major crimes, patrol and investigations, budgeting for the department, identity theft, gangs, graffiti and narcotics. In one session members will "fire" in the range and also learn firearm safety in the home. Members will also participate in a patrol ride along to see first-hand what officers see and hear, and what they are trained to do under a variety of circumstances.

In selecting members for each class, the department attempts to reflect the broadest possible range within our community; this includes young and old, men and women, and representatives of special ethnic, cultural and civic groups. Participants must be at least 21 years old, with no outstanding warrants, open criminal cases, or criminal history.

If you wish to be considered for participation in our next Citizen's Academy, or for questions regarding the Academy, you may contact Community Services Specialist Candace Bobkiewicz by email or phone at [cbobkiewicz@covinaca.gov](mailto:cbobkiewicz@covinaca.gov) or (626)384-5630.